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CD NO.

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

CCP ISSUES REGULATIONS ON PUBLICATION  
OF CRITICISM AND SELF-CRITICISM

a. Party members, especially cadres, should recognize that the purposes of criticism and self-criticism which appear in newspapers and publications are to strengthen the relationships between the Party and the people,

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to guarantee democratic practices within the Party and the nation, and to assist in the acceleration of the progress of society. The populace should be educated to feel free to express any criticisms or to submit any suggestions about our Party without fear of being persecuted granting that there may be criticisms and suggestions made without foundation. This should awaken the people's spirit of progressiveness and encourage them to join in the reconstruction activities of the nation. The directing organizations of the various levels of the Party and the cadres should maintain a receptive spirit toward criticism and should oppose the attitude of disregarding, suppressing, and oppressing the critics.

b. Editors, reporters, correspondents, and the people in general should be educated to recognize constructive and destructive criticism. Criticism should be promoted as a method through which the people may aid in the reconstruction of the nation and not as a method to generate pessimism and despair by destructively criticizing the common program and the People's government. Newspapers and publications should welcome sincere criticisms and oppose all destructive criticisms. Destructive criticism written by anti-revolutionary individuals against the people's democratic dictatorship must be rejected.

3. To guarantee effective promotion of criticism and self-criticism in newspapers and publications, the CCP Central Committee has set forth the following for the Party committee of the various levels and the activities workers of Party organs to carry out:

a. Reporters and editors of newspapers and publications shall be responsible for the publication of articles of criticism in their publications. Previously, in many localities, such articles were submitted to the organizations or officials concerned for their review and approval before publication. This procedure was used under wartime conditions when it was not convenient to make accurate investigations to prevent the publication of inaccurate criticisms. This does not mean that this procedure is no longer necessary. Hereafter, if the editor is not able to determine the accuracy of the criticisms he may continue the investigation procedure obtaining the viewpoint of the person involved; but if the editor is satisfied that the article submitted is factual, he may assume full responsibility for its publication without seeking further approval.

b. The above rule shall apply, whenever applicable, to copy submitted by labor and farm correspondents. The activities of the labor and farm correspondents shall be guided by the policies of the newspaper and supported by Party organizations affiliated with production activities. No person may use force or threats to bring pressure to bear on labor and farm correspondents because of criticism appearing in newspapers.

c. All constructive criticism sent in by the readers should be printed in the newspapers if the publisher determines that it is based on facts. In submitting criticism, the author shall give his full name and address, but may request that the name and address, be withheld in the print of the article.

d. If a criticism appearing in the newspaper is found to be factual, the individual criticized should make a statement of acknowledgement in the same medium, and should also publicly offer remedial methods. If only a portion of the criticism is based on facts, the individual concerned must publish in the same paper the facts and the misstatements. If the individual being criticized adopts an attitude of indifference, or if he adopts a hostile attitude, investigation and disposition of the case shall be made by the Party's disciplinary committee. If facts reveal violation of any laws or administrative regulations, then disposition shall be made by the national inspection organization or judicial organization.

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4. Lenin's "Discussion on Our Newspapers," Stalin's "Discussion on Self-Criticism" and "Attack on Making the Slogan 'Self-Criticism' Commonplace," Mao Tse-tung's "Discussion on Self-Criticism," and the regulations adopted by the Eighth Party Plenum pertaining to party and soviet publications should be used as training material to be discussed and practiced by Party committees of newspapers and by Party publications. [These items are published in full in the Shanghai Chieh-fang Jih-pao, 23 April 1950.]

5. These decisions are applicable to newspapers and publications which are under the Party leadership, but when non-Party newspapers and publications, under like spirit, have taken the same attitude toward criticism and self-criticism as that taken by Party organizations and Party members, the Party shall follow the same method dealing with them, and give them the same cooperation and support.

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